

# AIR WEST 70 news

Vol. 2 No. 7

April 17, 1970

## SALE TO HUGHES COMPLETED

### *A Letter . . .*

#### To All Air West Personnel:

*I would like to extend our sincere thanks to all of the employees of Air West who have sustained the operations of the airline during the difficulties experienced over the past two years. Your loyalty and dedication is a clear indication that we have a sound organization upon which to build for the future.*

*The future is our primary concern. We are in the process of establishing objectives and an operating plan to accomplish those objectives. The development and implementation of that plan will not be an easy job. It will require a spirit of cooperation and teamwork directed toward our mutual goals.*

*Although our financial picture has stabilized, and we have access to resources which we lacked in the past, it must be clearly understood that our future depends on our ability to meet the established objectives, specifically, a profitable level of operation.*

*Implicit in this objective is a continuing effort to control cost. All expenditures will be evaluated in terms of need and economic return to the Company. Legitimate and economically sound requirements will be adequately provided for.*

*There has been much conjecture concerning relocation of facilities and personnel. This management can see no economic advantages to such a move. Our present plans call for the retention of the Air West Headquarters in the San Francisco area.*

*It is my intention to use our company newspaper on a regular basis to keep you as fully informed as possible. As and when our plans for the future are solidified, they will be communicated to you as will other policies and decisions affecting Air West, its employees and their families.*

*Recognizing that communications must flow in both directions, I ask that any questions, problems or recommendations of serious concern be directed to me through appropriate channels. I, or one of my designated representatives will attempt to answer your questions or resolve the problems. All meaningful recommendations will receive full consideration.*

*As a final note, in order that you understand the make-up of the new Air West Management, I have attached a copy of the current organization chart.*

— Irving Tague

### Tague Named Gen'l Manager

Officials of Air West, Inc. and Hughes Tool Co. have announced the final closing of the sale of the airline to Hughes Air Corp.

Closing was effective as of midnight, March 31.

The purchase price was approximately \$90-million with Air West making up a net worth deficiency of approximately \$48-million to comply with terms of the purchase agreement.

Irving Tague was named acting general manager. Prior to the closing, he was engaged in an extensive study of Air West's operations as a representative of an economic and transportation consulting firm.

Three officers of the airline announced their resignations: Edmund Converse, former chairman of the board; G. Robert Henry, former

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## Sale Completed

president, and J. N. Bez, Jr., who was an executive vice president.

The three departing officers explained they were leaving to give the new ownership a free hand to develop Air West.

Four vice presidents were named: Irving Tague, v. p.-corporate services and acting general manager; Larry Decker, v. p.-marketing; E. N. Altman, v. p.-operations; Robert Thrall, v. p.-finance.

## THANKS FOR THE LIFT

Because of the available air service from Eureka/Arcata and the efforts of the station personnel, Jim Wells informs us that the Sun Valley Bulb Farms are expanding their facilities there, and flower shipments are expected to triple next season.

## Leo J. McAvoy, 23 Year Vet Retires

Leo J. McAvoy - JAMTO Manager at McClellan AFB in Sacramento, joined the ranks of the retired on April 1. McAvoy, a 23 year airline veteran, started his career with Southwest Airways in 1947, continued through Pacific and now Air West.

As far as we know, he has no future plans, other than taking it easy.

## ON - TIME

|                   |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| January.....      | 79.5% |
| February.....     | 88.1% |
| March.....        | 87.0% |
| 1970 Average..... | 84.8% |

## RW Credit Union Elects Officers

Members of the Air West Employees Federal Credit Union elected a slate of officers at their recent meeting in San Mateo, Hal Wallis has reported.

Named to the board of directors: Bernie Hallock, W. W. Haas and Irene Hobson, each for 3 years; Harvey Kyllonen, Cliff Magnuson and George Pomeroy, each for two years; John Malloy, Hal Wallis and Joe Aspitarte, each to one year terms.

Credit committee members: Tom Gordon, one year; Stan Goc, two years and Eric Wilson for one year.

Officers: Bernie Hallock, president; W. W. Haas, vice president; Hal Wallis, treasurer.

John Krema, Bud Donohoe and Joe Aspitarte make up the supervisory committee.

Hallock announced a quarterly six percent dividend was paid and credited to members April 1.

## Air Pirates Sent to Jail

Eighteen persons were indicted for criminal prosecution in the Federal courts on charges of air piracy during 1969, the Air Transport Association (ATA) has announced.

Franklin Oelschlager, director of ATA's Office of Enforcement, said seven of the persons were brought to trial during the year and five received sentences varying from indeterminate (in the case of two juveniles) to 20 years' imprisonment. In two cases, the defendants were declared mentally incompetent.

Oelschlager said there were 41 hijacking incidents involving U.S. registered aircraft during 1969, 33 of them successful. Thirty-one aircraft were flown to Cuba, one to Italy and one to Syria. Eight attempts were aborted and the hijackers arrested.

"We are confident the recent slowdown in the hijacking of U. S. aircraft in recent months is due to the well publicized fact that Castro released eight hijackers during the year and they were promptly arrested and indicted upon their return to this country," Oelschlager said.

# COMMERCIAL FLIGHT SAFETY GREAT

"How Safe Is Flying?", a report that goes behind the safety scene to come up with 302 new facts on accomplishments in air safety, has been published by the Air Transport Association.

The report draws its theme from a speech in which ATA President, Stuart G. Tipton attacked the problem of fear of flying stating "safety is the art of reducing risk to the lowest chance of occurrence" and then listing safety accomplishments achieved by the scheduled airlines. The new report includes air safety strides since the original 1964 speech and new safety programs now underway.

How safe is flying? Tipton said, "based on the 1969 safety record of the U. S. scheduled airlines, which was the third safest year in the history of commercial aviation, you have a 99.99992 percent probability of completing any flight safely. And if you don't like those odds," Tipton added, "let me assure you that if you step into your own automobile, the odds are about 24 times less favorable."

Other safety highlights:

--The year 1969 was the 18th consecutive year in which the fatality rate of the U.S. scheduled airlines was below 1.0 per 100 million passenger miles flown. The rate has been kept consistently low even though the number of passengers carried has increased about six-fold in these 18 years.

--Safety statistics indicate that you may expect to fly 220,000,000 miles aboard a U. S. scheduled airliner before being fatally injured. Cruising at top speed in a jet airliner, this would require steady non-stop flying for 40 years.

--The airlines, private research firms and the Federal government have more than 500 individual projects underway directly related to air safety. These include work on the development of a collision avoidance system, airline testing of an airborne electronic device which constantly monitors important aircraft components so as to be able to predict when a malfunction might occur and the gradual achievement of the long sought airline goal of all-weather operations.

## Kent Resigns; To New Post

Gordon Kent, assistant to the chairman and director of public relations, has tendered his resignation, effective in early June. He will be on vacation status until his vacation is completed.

Kent, who joined a predecessor company of Air West in August 1965, has accepted another position in Phoenix, Ariz.

## Discounts Offered

You can join the 10% CLUB INTERNATIONAL for a special rate of \$7 (it's usually \$10). Membership gives you cash discounts at some 3000 establishments throughout the United States and Europe -- hotels, restaurants, shops, sightseeing and car rental agencies, leasing or shipping. To join, write to: 10% CLUB INTERNATIONAL, 5430 Van Nuys Boulevard, Van Nuys California 91401.

### Air West '70 News

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# Interline Bargain Report

BY PERRY JACKSON  
MGR-INTERLINE & MIL SALES

Our Slip Is Showing.....  
....We Goofed!

In the March 27 issue of Air West '70 News, we mentioned Avianca's 1970 Interline tour program. Air West employees cannot take advantage of any of these reduced rates or tours as we do not hold an Interline Agreement with this carrier.

## ON-LINE INTERLINE HOTEL RATES:

PORTLAND: The Benson Hotel gives 25% rate reductions to Air West employees year round. Contact Jerry Pawley, Director of Sales, The Benson Hotel on Broadway Portland, Oregon.

PHOENIX: Hotel Westward Ho offers reduced rate for airline employees which applies year-round for \$9.50 single and \$13.50 double. Contact the hotel at 618 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85004.

Cactus Rock Lodge and Stables has a special airline rate of \$11.25 per day. Rates include three meals daily and use of free recreation facilities ----- tennis, swimming, shuffleboard, croquet, etc. Transportation from the airport is also included. Horseback riding is extra. Contact A. I. Mc Neal,

Cactus Rock Lodge, 7645 North 16th Street, Phoenix, Ariz. 85020.

SAN FRANCISCO: Hotel Stewart --- Special to airline employees \$11.00 single and \$14.00 double. Contact Calvin Browne, Reservations Manager, 351 Geary Street, San Francisco, Calif. 94102.

HOLLYWOOD: Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel. Special airline employee rates, \$10.00 single; \$14.00 double. Contact Franklin Davis, 7000 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood 28, Calif.

ANAHEIM ---- DISNEYLAND: Waikiki Motor Inn. This motel is within walking distance to Disneyland and offers special rates to airline employees. Off season, September 5-May 19, except Holiday periods; Single \$12-\$14; double \$12-\$16. Two double beds are \$14-\$18. On season rates, May 19-September 4, and holiday periods: double bed \$18-\$24. Two double beds \$22-\$30. Free courtesy limousine from Anaheim Terminal. Contact owner managers, Gordon and Florence Fischer, 631 West Katella Avenue, Anaheim, Calif. 92802.

## INTERLINE HIGHLAND FLING

The Sahara Tahoe has a special package for Air West employees. It is

called the Interline Highland Fling.

Included in this 3-day, 2-night package are accommodations of unbelievable beauty, two leisurely breakfasts, 2 delicious luncheons, one gourmet dinner, and four cocktails in the lounge of your choice.

The cost is \$20.80 per person-double occupancy, or single is \$28.00. This offer is good anytime of the year, however, prices are slightly higher on weekends or holidays.

Reservations must be made in advance and the complete package prepaid before arrival. Each person on arrival must show airline identification before check-in.

Reservations are to be made directly with the hotel by writing, or call (702) 588-6211.

## Howard Parker Reaches 20 Years

Howard Parker, sales/service manager at Santa Barbara, has completed 20 years of service with Air West, it is reported by Eric Wilson, director of stations.

Hired as an agent at Chico, Calif., in 1950, he later was assigned at Napa, Red Bluff and Stockton. He moved to Santa Barbara in late 1955.